

Licensing Sub Committee

Tuesday, 22nd October 2024

**Supplementary Information: Item 6 – Application for the
Grant of a Premises Licence for Association of
Ukrainians in Great Britain**

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Agenda Item 6

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 10:16 AM

To: Entertainment Licensing <Entertainment.Licen@leeds.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: PREM/05399/001 - Representation relating to Association Of Ukrainians In Great Britain, 5 Newton Grove Potternewton Leeds LS7 4HW (LCC - May Contain Profanity)

To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my **strong objection** once again. This is a small residential street and not suitable for a live or recorded music/ dance venue serving alcohol on a regular basis. If events go on til midnight that is still already late and puts people on our back street past midnight. i remind you the front access is a private street.

This residential area has previously faced issues from events at The Ukrainian Centre that have raised significant concerns for local residents: 1) Newton Grove's front is a private road, and the lack of ownership means litter often accumulates without being cleared. This is especially likely in events where alcohol is sold The frequent presence of rubbish, including glass bottles and other debris, not only diminishes our neighborhood's aesthetic but also poses health risks. 2) Live Music creates noise pollution on this street and this would be a persistent disruption; sound waves travel easily here, causing vibrations that rattle windows which is highly disruptive day or night. 3) Following events at the Ukrainian Centre, I have encountered unwanted visitors banging on my door. In one instance, I had to call the police to have the person removed who was drunk and kicking at my door and shouting. As a [REDACTED] resident, I've felt compelled to install spy holes for added security at that point. I do not welcome more incidents like this which are more likely with regular events going up to midnight. What guarantees are/ what would be put in place to deter visitors at these events from causing disruption to residents? 4) Live or recorded music contributes to further disturbances through vibration rattling all the windows, making it increasingly difficult to be comfortable and feel safe. 5) Increased traffic along the fairly narrow back street raises concerns about access for residents vehicles historically, potentially leading to safety hazards and general disruption, possibly reducing safety of people and potential damage to vehicles if there is regular drinking.

6) There have been several places on our backstreet previously where drugs have been regularly sold. There have been incidents where live events have

ended with the street being cordoned off by police because of various violent incidents. I believe this licence will encourage more of this kind of criminality because people who do not live here will be gathering and will not necessarily care about being respectful when they arrive and leave - because they do not live here. Many people (strangers) gathering, especially drunk has previously led to people pissing along our street both front and back, and wandering into our private gardens which can all be accessed along this private road by the Ukrainian Centre. I do not have confidence that the visitors behaviour once they have left the Ukrainian centre front or back will be managed suitably and it will be hard for us or the police to manage.

Again, I would prefer to remain anonymous due to issues of safety and fear of being intimidated by the venue.

For same reasons I am not sure if I can attend a meeting as I wouldn't be anonymous at a meeting. How can the premises ensure that what they say will stand. i feel they may promise all sorts but once they have the licence do whatever they like.

warmest,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our committee arranged a meeting on 15th October for all objectors to our license application to come along and discuss any concerns they may have so that we could put their minds at rest.

The meeting started at 6.30 with 2 neighbours present and Cllr Jane Dowson. We discussed the hours we were applying for and explained that we were not applying for a 2am finish but had agreed with the police that an 11.30 finish for the sale of alcohol would be acceptable to them. This appeared to be acceptable to the neighbours and they left the meeting.

Cllr Dowson has on occasion visited our Community Centre, but I explained again that the Association of Ukrainians have owned the building since 1965 and we exist to develop, promote and support the interests of the Ukrainian Community in the UK and to preserve Ukrainian traditions and culture.

The people who attend our centre are mainly families, many of whom are ladies with children whose husbands have stayed behind in Ukraine to fight. We are a Community centre and the function of the premises will not change.

We run a Supplementary school for the children, an English speaking club and a choir and we are the main meeting point in Leeds for Ukrainians to meet and be Ukrainian...we are a small part of Ukraine. Our centre is run entirely by our volunteers.

We are also a centre where other communities can come and feel at home. Currently the Lithuanian community and a Zimbabwean Church group use our Centre regularly.

Running alongside this we also have a registered charity working from our centre Leeds Ukrainian Community Association that fundraises to help the displaced people living in the Leeds area as well as sending humanitarian aid back to Ukraine.

The reason for applying for a license is to allow us some flexibility. The situation in Ukraine is fast moving and sometimes meetings have to be arranged at short notice. The license would enable us to at least offer a drink when people come in. It has been suggested that we work on TEN notices, but we would be limited to 15 per year which just would not be enough plus they have to be applied for 15 days before the event and quite often we don't have that much notice. We are a Ukrainian community centre and are looking to serve the needs of our community.

Our Designated Premises Supervisor has worked for a Housing Association for 20 years and has helped in a pub near home and is conscious of the needs of our neighbours. All our litter is picked up and placed in our bins, in fact we suffer the same problem as others where rubbish is regularly thrown over the fence into our garden.

We have never had any instances of drunken or antisocial behaviour or any drug taking involving anybody in our Community Centre.

I appreciate there are instances of antisocial behaviour as has been described but can assure you that these have not involved anybody who has previously been drinking in our Community Centre.

We understand the concerns of our neighbours but we are committed to keeping our neighbours interests at the forefront of our minds. We would encourage open dialogue with those who live close to us and would invite anybody interested to come along and visit us.